

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 9-15 and amend the claims as follows.

1-20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) A method for performing a fast context switch in a register file that includes a primary latch and a plurality of secondary latches having data outputs, the method comprising the steps of:

(A) for a selected one secondary latch of the plurality of secondary latches, performing the steps of A1 and A2:

(A1) storing a first value in the primary latch that corresponds to a selected thread;

(A2) moving the first value in the primary latch to the selected one of the plurality of secondary latches;

(B) storing a second value in the primary latch that corresponds to an active thread,
where the active thread is different than the selected thread;

(C) selecting a data output of the selected one secondary latch only from among each of the data outputs of the secondary latches for performing [[a]] the context switch with the primary latch; and

(D) performing [[a]] the context switch in a single clock cycle between the primary latch and the selected one secondary latch that causes the second value in the primary latch to be stored in the selected one secondary latch, and that causes the first value in the selected one secondary latch to be stored in the primary latch.

22. (Cancelled)

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-22 were originally filed in this patent application. In the first office action, claim 9 was objected to for an informality and claims 1-17 and 19-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,831,623 to Terzian. No claim was allowed. In the first response dated 04/20/2006, claims 1, 8, 16, 19 and 21 were amended and claim 18 was cancelled. A second response dated 08/02/2006 was not entered by the examiner. In an amendment filed with a request for continued examination on 09/25/06, claims 9 and 21 were amended and claims 1-8, 16-17 and 19-20 were cancelled. In an office action dated December 13, 2006, claims 9-15, 21 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph. Further, claims 9-15 and 21-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Henry. In the response filed March 13, 2007, claims 10 and 21 were amended and claim 22 was cancelled. In the most recent office action, the Examiner maintained the same rejections. In this response, claims 9-15 were cancelled and claim 21 was amended. Claim 21 is currently pending.